



Great Basin

Coordination Center Consolidation



Newsletter Date

Issue 1 December 5, 2013

Great Basin Coordinating Group Monthly Newsletter

In This Letter

Great Basin Coordination
Center Board of Directors

NIFC Communications Plan

Great Basin Coordination
Center Table of
Organization

Organization and Staffing

Vacancies and Outreach

New Facility for GBCC

Predictive Services Update

Accomplishments and
Next Steps

Click Below For Information about FireOrg

- [Great Basin Agency Administrator FireOrg Briefing](#)
- [FireOrg](#)

On September 4, 2013 the Agency Administrator's for the Great Basin Coordinating Group made the decision to combine Eastern Great Basin and Western Great Basin Coordination Centers. The consolidated coordination center will be located in Salt Lake City, Utah as the "Great Basin Coordination Center" or "GBCC." The Great Basin Coordination Center will open its doors and be fully operational January 1, 2015.

Upon making the decision to consolidate the Agency Administrator's asked the Great Basin Coordinating Group to implement a number of communications strategies, one being a monthly newsletter. The GBCG is committed to keeping Coordination Center employees, Agency Administrators and other partners informed of the plans and progress of this endeavor. Both a monthly newspaper and internet website will be available as sources for information.

GBCC Board of Directors

On September 18, 2013 the Great Basin Coordinating Group selected a Board of Directors to provide governance and oversight.

The GBCC Board of Directors includes the following voting and non-voting members:

Voting members include the **Chair**, Sue Stewart, USFS Region 4, Tracy

Dunford, State of Utah, Leon Ben, BIA Western Region (DOI representative), and Rick Belger, BLM Utah. Rex McKnight, BLM Nevada will serve as a GBCG Liaison to the BOD until the transition is complete. Upon consolidation of the two GACCs the Vice Chair of the GBCG will serve as the GBCC Liaison. The GBCG Liaison will

only vote in case of a tie.

A BOD Charter has been developed along with a Memorandum of Understanding, Master Agreement, and Center Annual Operating Plan.

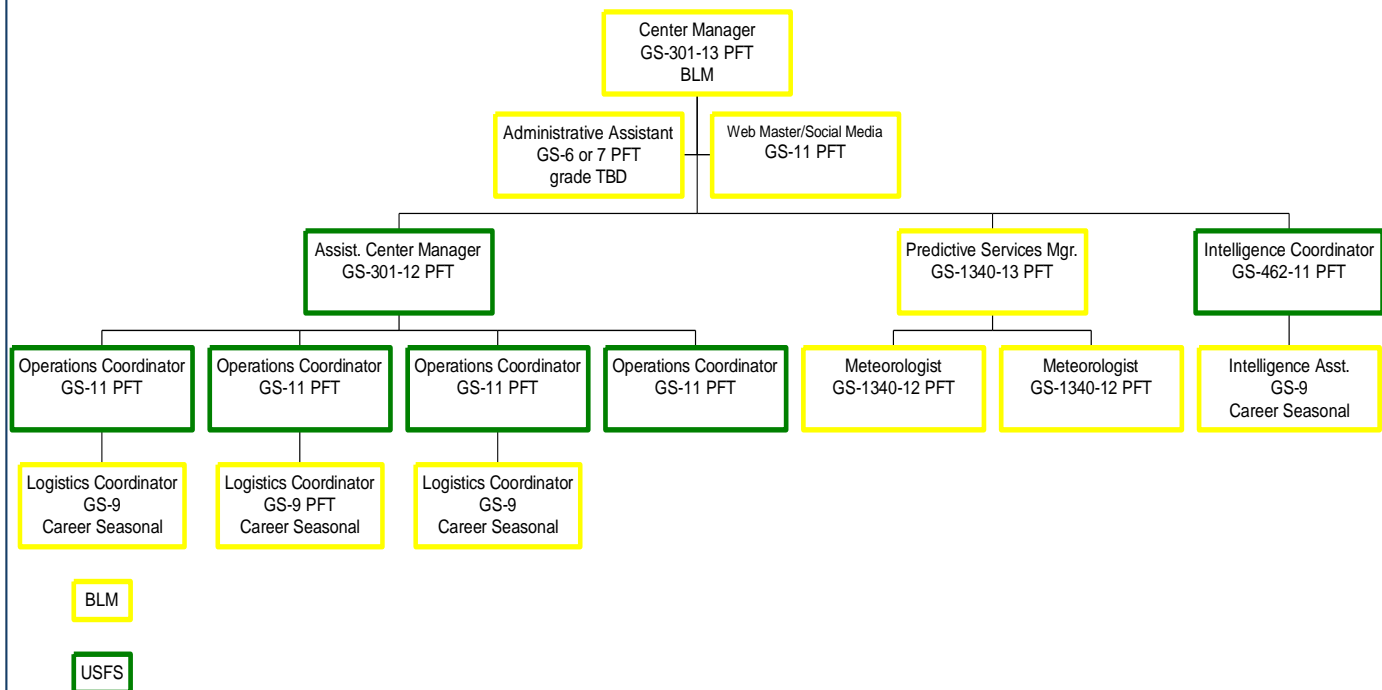
The Board of Directors will meet via bi-weekly conference calls through the transition period.

External Affairs Communication Plan

The National interagency Fire Center issued a Press Release and Communication Plan September 5, 2013 announcing the creation of the new Great Basin Coordination Center. The Communications Plan is available at: [Great Basin Coordination Center Communications Plan](#)

The GBCC Organization

Target Great Basin Coordination Center Target Table of Organization



Development of the Organization

The Great Basin Coordination Center Target Table of Organization (TTO) was structured using a FireOrg analysis of 10 years of data from EGBCC and WGBCC.

Staffing levels for Predictive Services and other support positions were determined based on input from GACC Managers. FireOrg isn't designed to do analysis of workloads in those areas.

Funding amounts for the positions were also determined through FireOrg and agency fair share amounts identified in the MOA and Operating Plan. While the positions are BLM and Forest Service, each agency is expected to provide their fair share funding amounts through the Interagency Agreement for the Great Basin Coordination Center. BIA's two positions will be absorbed into the Table of Organization as the positions are vacated. BIA will contribute fair share funding amounts rather than host positions.

The Forest Service positions will be held by the USFS, Intermountain Region (R4) and the BLM positions will belong to the Utah State Office.

Vacancies & Outreach

GS-11 Operations Coordinators (USFS)

- The Outreach to recruit and advertise the four GS-11 Operations Coordinator positions came out 12/3. It will be out for 30 days.
- Web Master/Social Media GS-9/11. In the process of being advertised by BLM, Utah State Office.
- GS-12 Meteorologist. Will be advertised by the BLM Utah State Office TBD
- GS-6 Administrative Assistant. Will be advertised by the BLM Utah State Office.

Future Issues

Please let us know what information you would like to see included in futures newsletters and correspondence about the Great Basin Coordination Center.

State Of Utah Acquiring New Facility for the Great Basin Coordination Center

One of the key factors in the selection of Salt Lake City as the preferred location for the Great Basin Coordination Center was the State of Utah's offer to acquire the facility.

As a State Agency, the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) which govern the office space acquisition process for federal agencies do not apply. Acquiring office space through the FAR is a multi-year process with numerous requirements. The State's ability to negotiate and acquire office space is much less restrictive and can often be completed in less than one year.



The State of Utah Division of Facilities and Construction Management expect to have the Advertisement for Office Space on the street by the end of December 2013.

The request for 10,800 square feet requires that the site selected be within walking distance (1,000 feet) of an established UTA bus stop or TRAX stations. The site must be within ½ mile from a major hotel and restaurants.

Specific areas of Salt Lake City have also been identified.

The State of Utah negotiated and acquired the current location for the Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center and has maintained the lease since 1993 as their fair share contribution to the GACC.

The target date to have the new facility open for business is January 1, 2015.

Great Basin Predictive Services

The EGBCC and WGBCC Predictive Service sections are working to combine their products.

Products such as the Daily Outlook, 7 Day Outlook, ROMAN, National Fuels Date Base, Situation Report and 209 Database, Web Sites as well as many others will require modification.

The initial intent was to have both GACC Predictive Services Programs consolidated for the 2014 fire season.

Due to current vacancies, staffing levels, and other concerns including maintaining consistency for the customers they serve, both GACCs will continue

to report separately until the consolidation in January of 2015.

Programs maintained nationally may require funding for system modification. Required system re-configurations are currently being evaluated so that updates can be funded and completed by 2015.

Summary of Accomplishments and Next Steps

Accomplishments to Date

We continue to make good progress toward making the combination of EGBCC and WGBCC a reality.

Following the final decision to create the Great Basin Coordination Center by our Interagency Line Officers in September we have:

- Informed the employees of the decision.
- Established a Board of Directors to coordinate work and make the center a reality. A formal charter has been developed.
- Developed a transition and implementation plan identifying tasks and tracking progress.
- Issued an interagency Press Release announcing the establishment of the Great Basin.
- Finalized the Table of Organization, identified which agencies will host positions and initiated recruitment and outreach.



Next Steps

We will continue to work aggressively throughout the winter of 2014 on facilities, organization, systems and agreements.

- GACC Managers will begin coordination with adjacent Geographic Area to discuss local and GACC initial attack agreements and define business practices.
- EGBCC and WGBCC employees will participate in a planning meeting Boise in February to prioritize tasks and begin streamlining processes.
- Interoperability and other Information Technology system needs and requirements will be identified and evaluated.
- Continue preparedness activities for fires season 2014.



For Questions and Information Contact:
Nelda St. Clair
nstclair@blm.gov

For Additional Resources Visit:
<http://gacc.nifc.gov/wgbc/GBCG/index.htm>

Next Issue:

February 5, 2014